

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested since the Amendment places the Application in condition for allowance, or at least in better form for appeal.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner argues that it is unclear whether the temporary substrate is part of the claimed structure. Applicants respectfully submit that it is clear that Applicants are claiming an intermediate structure including the temporary substrate. The clause relating to the removal of the temporary substrate only further defines what exactly Applicants mean by the word "temporary." Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 is traversed. Claims 2-6 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Kurtz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,543,349). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Kurtz clearly does not disclose the removal of the temporary substrate. Presumably, the "temporary substrate" of claim 1 would read on wafer 20 of Kurtz. Kurtz shows a functioning Kurtz device in Fig. 16. (Col. 6, ll. 22-23). The "temporary substrate" 20 is clearly still present. Kurtz nowhere suggests that the wafer 20 is ever removed, nor does Kurtz state that the wafer 20 is temporary. Wafer 20 appears to in fact be an inextricable piece of the Kurtz device.

Further, claim 1 requires that the upper substrate have substantially higher flexibility than that of the temporary substrate. Kurtz does not disclose such a property for wafer 20 and substrate 30, either explicitly or inherently.

Claims 2-6 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

2. Claims 1-6 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Drayton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,913,134). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Drayton clearly does not disclose the removal of the temporary substrate. Presumably, the "temporary substrate" of claim 1 would read on wafer 12 of Drayton. Drayton shows a functioning Drayton device in Fig. 2A. (Col. 4, ll. 40-43). The "temporary substrate" 12 is clearly still present. Drayton nowhere suggests that the wafer 12 is ever removed, nor does Drayton state that the wafer 12 is temporary. Wafer 12 appears to in fact be an inextricable piece of the Drayton device.

Further, claim 1 requires that the upper substrate have substantially higher flexibility than that of the temporary substrate. Drayton does not disclose such a property for wafer 12 and substrate 14, either explicitly or inherently.

Claims 2-6 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

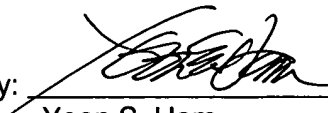
Conclusion

Therefore, all rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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